

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, anaphylaxis is a sudden, severe allergic reaction involving major organs in the body simultaneously that can result in death; and

WHEREAS, researchers estimate that food allergies affect approximately 11 million Americans, cause 30,000 emergency room visits and, tragically, prove fatal to 150 individuals each year who suffer food-induced anaphylaxis by unknowingly eating a food containing an ingredient to which they are allergic; and

WHEREAS, eight foods cause 90 percent of all food allergy reactions, with symptoms including hives, vomiting, diarrhea, respiratory distress, and swelling of the throat; and

WHEREAS, educating restaurants, schools, and the general public about the serious and potentially life - threatening nature of food allergies can reduce the chances of severe reaction and death.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim May 13 - 19, 2007, as

FOOD ALLERGY AWARENESS WEEK

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to raise awareness of food allergies and anaphylaxis.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Sanford".

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA